GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:847
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007
AUTISTIC/MENTALLY RETARDED PASSENGERS
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether autistic/mentally retarded persons are not allowed to board a flight in India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to formulate rules in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) to (c):- Person suffering from mental disorders or epilepsy are not allowed on board aircraft unless certified by a registred medical practitioner to be fit to travel by air without being a risk to other passengers or to the aircraft, and in addition:-

(i) has not taken or used any alcoholic drink or preparation within twelve hours of the commencement of the flight;

(ii) is kept under proper sedative, if in a state of excitement, during the flight and stops en route; and

(iii) is accompanied by an attendant, provided that in case he has been in a state of excitement requiring sedation within the two weeks preceding the date of commencement of the flight, he shall be accompanied by a registered medical practitioner and adequate escort who shall individually and collectively be responsible for ensuring that no alcoholic drink or preparation is taken by the person in their charge and that such person is kept suitably sedated during the flight and stops en route.